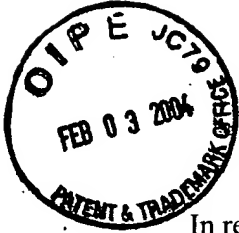


Image 1763



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventors: Stephen E. DeOrnellas, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/880,584

Confirm. No.: 8818

Filed: June 13, 2001

Title: METHOD FOR MINIMIZING THE CRITICAL  
DIMENSION GROWTH OF A FEATURE ON A  
SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: George Goudreau

Customer No. 23910

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 29, 2004.

Thomas Ward (Attorney Signature)  
Thomas A. Ward, Reg. 35,732  
Signature Date: January 29, 2004

TRANSMITTAL LETTER  
RE-SUBMITTING OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE  
IN RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office December 29, 2003, enclosed is the following:

A Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 to the Office Action dated January 29, 2004.

The enclosed Office Action Response modifies the Response filed December 2, 2003, to list claims 1-38 as required by the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. Reconsideration and acceptance of the enclosed Response is respectfully requested.

No fees are believed due with this response, but if fees are determined to be due the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies to Deposit Account No. 06-1325.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/29/04

By: Thomas Ward  
Thomas A. Ward, Reg. 35,732

FLIESLER MEYER LLP  
Four Embarcadero Center, Fourth Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-4156  
Telephone: (415) 362-3800



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Thomas A. Ward (Attorney Signature)  
Thomas A. Ward, Reg. No. 35,732  
Signature Date: January 29, 2004

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 28, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as shown beginning on the following page.